Program Description/Textbook or Print Instructional Material

Vendor:_**Aries Technology Inc.** Web Address: **www.aries.net**

Title: **Aries A+ Certified Computer Technician - Hardware**

Author: **Aries Technology Inc**. Copyright: **1998-2003**

ISBN: **0-9716096-0-8** Course/Content Area: **PC Maintenance & Repair (IT Cert.)**

Intended Grade or Level: **9th grade +** Readability Level: **7th Grade**

List Price: **$60.00** Lowest Wholesale Price: **$35.00**

All materials bid as of July 1, 2003 must be offered in an alternative format for students who require reading accommodations. A description of the levels of accommodation is included on p.8-9 of this bid packet. The Kentucky Department of Education must receive a copy of the alternative format if the instructional material is placed on the State Multiple List.

Level of Accommodations (Level One, Two or Three) **Level Three**
If Level Two or Three, please provide rationale for not meeting Level One Compliance:

At this time Aries' curricula does not currently meet all of the standards outlined by the level one criteria. To date, these materials accommodate the following:
Non-text elements
- Text equivalent for every non-text element is available
- Frames are titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation, however, this feature does not work with screen readers-- direction will need to be provided to students with limitations.

Speech synthesis:
- The software that accompanies each of these textbooks will accommodate commonly used speech synthesis software

Braille conversion programs:
- The software that accompanies these materials has never been tested for compatibility with commonly used Braille conversion programs

File Formats:
- The files in each of these textbooks are available in HTML format.

Future versions of these materials can be designed to accommodate all of the level one requirements.

FEATURES
DISCLAIMER: The features of each book or program were developed by the publisher and do not reflect the opinion of the State Review Team, State Textbook Commission, nor of the Kentucky Department of Education.

Content – Aries textbook content is written to accommodate all types of students. The content is written on a 7th grade reading level and is enhanced with detailed graphics and informative sidebars. Also included is a CD ROM that simulates hands-on lab exercises for students. This not only shows students how to work through various situations, but it encourages them to work along with the simulation.

Student Experiences – We have students throughout the US, Australia, and the Netherlands who have successfully used our courses. We can provide various references from both students and instructors. (Available upon request)

Assessment – Aries Technology has developed a state of the art assessment system. This system does all of the following in an easy to use management system. Aries assessment includes: Attendance tracking, testing (ability to modify questions), statistical analysis, allows the instructor, student and parents to communicate through an internal email system. Also serves an electronic grade book. Our assessment is one of the easiest systems to use.

Organization – Our course content is logically organized and is inline with most industry accepted testing functions; therefore it prepares students for success when taking industry endorsed certification exams.

Resource Materials – Our courses include both student and teacher resources. These aids are offered online and are free of charge to our students and instructors.

Gratis Items To Be Provided And Under What Conditions – Technical Support, Student and Teacher Resources, and assessment services. All are included, free of charge.

Available Ancillary Materials

RESEARCH DATA AND EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

DISCLAIMER: The research data and evidence of effectiveness was provided by the publisher and does not reflect the opinion of the State Review Team, State Textbook Commission, nor the Kentucky Department of Education.

NOTE: Please complete this section by indicating the research data and evidence of effectiveness or give a web site where the information is located. If there is no research data and evidence of effectiveness, please indicate "not available" in the space.

Not Available –

KY-2B

Program Description
Electronic Instructional Material
In Lieu of Basal Text and As Supplemental Material

Vendor: Aries Technology Inc.   Web Address: **www.aries.net**

Title: **Aries A+ (Aries PC Maintenance and Repair – Hardware)**

Copyright: **1998-2003**   Grade Level: **9th Grade +**

Type of software: **Internet based course** Course/Content Area:**PC Maint. & Repair (hardware)**

Required: **PC With Internet Access**

Operating System Required: **Windows 98 or higher**

Pricing:	**List Price**	**Lowest Wholesale Price**
Stand Alone	**$100 per stud./per sem.**	**$100 per stud./per sem**
Site License	**$15,900 (25 node)**	**$12,900_(25 node)**
Lab Pack	_____	_____
Network License	**N/A**	**N/A**
Internet based	**$100 per stud./per sem.**	**$100 per stud./per sem**

Key features:

Other pertinent information:

Internet and Stand Alone pricing includes online course, textbook, and lab journal. All other services are also included such as assessment, student resources, teacher resources, technical support etc.

Site License pricing comes with 25 sets of books, additional books must be purchased. Welcome to the Workforce is also included in pricing. One online account per student.

Group V - Career/Technical Vocational/Practical Living Education Instructional Materials Evaluation Tool IT Computer Maintenance

Title: Aries A+ Certified Computer Technician—Hardware	Cost: $ 35.00

Publisher: Aries Technology, Inc.

Item Evaluated: Textbook and Software

Copyright Date: 1998-2003	Evaluator: Jerry Walker
Content Level: 9-12	Date of Evaluation: 7/30/2003

Level of Alternative Format	Level 1 – Full Compliance	Level 2 – Provisional Compliance	Level 3 – Marginal Compliance

This section completed by Exceptional Children Services

Overall Strengths and/or Weaknesses

Disclaimer: Comments on the strengths and/or weaknesses of each book, material or program were written by members of the State Textbook/Instructional Materials Review Team and reflect their opinions . They do not reflect the opinions of the State Textbook Commission nor the Kentucky Department of Education. In addition, the State Textbook/ Instructional Materials Review Team completed each evaluation form during the week of July 28-Aug. 1, 2003. In order to maintain the integrity of the of the review team's comments, editing was limited to spelling and punctuation.

Recommendations:
X Recommended by reviewers to State Textbook Commission
☐ Not recommended by reviewers to State Textbook Commission

Publisher's Explanation of Reviewer's Comments: By action of the State Textbook Commission, publishers are provided limited space, 150 words, to respond to what they may consider factual errors made by the reviewers in the evaluation.

Group V - Career/Technical Vocational/Practical Living Education Instructional Materials Evaluation Tool IT Computer Maintenance

Title: Aries A+ Certified Computer Technician—Hardware	Publisher: Aries Technology, Inc.

Technology Management Summary Data:	20 possible points	_____8_____ points earned

Technology Management Comments: Lacks a syllabus

Technology Presentation/Interface Summary Data:	40 possible points	_____31_____ points earned

Technology Presentation/Interface Comments: Lacks small and large group presentations (e.g., Power Point); however, it would be good for individual use.

Content Summary Data:	44 possible points	_____26_____ points earned

Content Comments:

Instruction & Management Summary Data	52 possible points	_____46_____points earned

Instruction & Management Comments:

Organization & Structure Summary Data	36 possible points	_____35_____ points earned

Organization & Structure Comments:

Resource Material Summary Data	40 possible points	_____27_____points earned

Resource Material Comments:

Group V - Career /Technical & Vocational/Practical Living
Electronic Instructional Media Review Form—Aries A+ Certified Computer Technician– Hardware—Aries
Stand Alone/Independent or Integrated Software for Computer Maintenance

Equipment (circle or change fill color)	Grade Level (circle or change fill color)	Audience (circle or change fill color)	Format (circle or change fill color)
Windows	Primary	Individual	Stand Alone/Independent
Macintosh	Intermediate	Small Group	Integrated
CD-ROM	Middle	Large Group	Supplemental
DVD	High		In lieu of basal test
Sound			
Other			

If other, explain

Cost: Included with text

_____single copy	_____site license
_____network version	_____school version
____lab pack of ___ copies	_____online

Type of Software: Check all that apply	_____Simulation	_____Management	_____Interdisciplinary	_____Problem Solving	_____Tutorial
	_____Exploratory	_____Creativity	_____Drill and Practice	_____Critical Thinking	_____Utility	_____Other:

Rating Scale:	3—Some of the time	1—None of the time
4—All or the time	2—Minimally	0— Not applicable

Management	Rating
Allows customizing for individual learning needs.	2
Allows students to exit and resume at a later time.	2
Keeps a students performance record, where needed.	1
Allows control of various aspects of the software (e.g., turning sound off).	2
Allows for printed reports.	1
Comments:	Total 8

Presentation/Interface	Rating
Presents material in an organized manner.	4
Has consistent, easy-to-use, on-screen instructions.	4
Has developmentally correct presentation format.	4
Adapts to different learning environments (learning styles/multiple intelligences, etc.)	2
Accessible for special needs students.	1
Runs smoothly, without long delays.	4
Presents easy-to-view text and graphics.	4
Presents easy-to-hear and understand sounds.	0
Avoids unnecessary screens, sounds, and graphics.	4
Provides immediate, appropriate feedback.	4
Comments:	Total 31

Content—IT Computer Maintenance	Rating
Career Focus/Employability Skills/Workplace Readiness Skills	2
Computer Hardware/Software Use & Operation	4
Computer Hardware/Software Problem Solving/Troubleshooting	2
Computer Hardware/Software Repair	2
Facilitation and Customer Service	1
System Operation	3
System Monitoring	3
System Maintenance	3
System Troubleshooting	2
Help Desk Skills	2
Computer Hardware/Software Installation	2
Comments:	**Total** **26**

Rating Scale:	2—Minimally
4—All or the time	1—None of the time
3—Some of the time	0— Not applicable

Instruction and Assessment	Rating
Identifies a Sense of Purpose	4
Builds on Student Ideas	4
Engages Students	4
Develops Computer Maintenance Ideas	4
Promotes Student Thinking	3
Assesses Student Progress	3
Enhances The Learning Environment	3
Reading level is appropriate for interest and ability level of intended student group; level remains consistent throughout.	4
Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) "like" Assessment is provided	3
Variety of Assessments (diagnostic, formative, summative, open response, multiple choice, individual, small group, oral, demonstrations, presentations, self and peer performance, portfolio prompts) is included.	3
Includes activities and opportunities for integration of technology.	4
Reflects researched-based practices (e.g. hands-on activities, technology, problem-solving situations)	3
Differentiation techniques and activities suggested.	4
Comments:	**Total** **46**

Rating Scale:	3 – Some potential for learning	1 - Not present
4 – High potential for learning	2 – Little potential for learning	0 – Not applicable

Organization and Structure	Rating
Organization is logical and allows for spiraling of content.	4
Vocabulary and key terms are clearly defined and easily accessible within each lesson.	4
Visual illustrations (e.g. graphs, charts, models) and examples are clearly presented and content-related.	4
Illustrations and language reflect diversity (e.g. racial, ethnic, cultural, age, gender, disabilities).	3
Legible type, length of lines, spacing, and page layout and width of margins contribute to overall appearance and use.	4
Student materials seem durable and conducive to daily use.	4
Includes sufficient glossary, index and appendices.	4
Employs accurate grammar and spelling	4
Organization of material can be effectively used with Standards Based Units, Core Content and Program of Studies.	4
Comments:	**Total 35**

Resource Materials	Rating
Teacher materials coordinate easily with student materials (e.g. additional resources included at point of need, student pages shown, integration of technology indicated)	3
Activities are included that adapt to the various learning styles, intelligences, and interest/ability levels.	4
Extension activities including adaptations and accommodations for students with special needs.	2
Resources provide objectives, background information, common student errors, hints, advice for lesson implementation and real-world connections, connections with career and/technology and references (e.g. solution manuals, study guides)	3
Suggestions are made for integration of themes and /or interdisciplinary instruction.	2
Integration opportunities suggested and examples given.	2
Teacher resources are available online.	2
Online resources available – Repeat of information in text.	3
Online resources available – Practice skills only.	3
Online resources available – New application materials.	3
Comments:	**Total 27**

Rating Scale:	2—Minimally
4—All or the time	1—None of the time
3—Some of the time	0— Not applicable